# The Western Journal of Medicine

VOLUME 148 • NUMBER 2 • FEBRUARY 1988

## **CONTENTS**

#### **CLINICAL INVESTIGATION**

## 163 Outbreak of Hepatitis A on an Offshore Petroleum Platform, Alaska

TOM KOSATSKY, MD, MPH; JOHN P. MIDDAUGH, MD; and DAVID HALL, PhD

From the Epidemiology Program Office, Division of Field Services, Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta; the Epidemiology Office, Division of Public Health, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services; and the Alaska Investigations Division, Center for Infectious Disease, Centers for Disease Control, Anchorage. Dr Kosatsky is now at the Bureau régional en santé environnementale, Montreal, Quebec.

#### **CLINICAL MEDICINE**

# 167 Perfusion Lung Scans Provide a Guide to Which Patients With Apparent Primary Pulmonary Hypertension Merit Angiography

KENNETH M. MOSER, MD; GREGORY T. PAGE; WILLIAM L. ASHBURN, MD; and PETER F. FEDULLO, MD

From the Pulmonary and Critical Care Division, Departments of Medicine and Radiology, University of California, San Diego, Medical Center, and UCSD School of Medicine, La Jolla.

## 171 Heterosexual and Perinatal Transmission of Human Immunodeficiency Virus in a Low Prevalence Community

ALEXANDER F. TAYLOR, MPH; SAMUEL JOHNSON, MD, MPH; STEVEN R. WYANT; and DAVID E. DASSEY, MD, MPH

From the Epidemiologic Section, Preventive Medical Services, and Communicable Disease Section, San Bernardino County Department of Public Health, San Bernardino, and the Disease Control Section, Department of Health, County of Riverside, Riverside, California.

#### **CLINICAL REVIEW**

## 176 The Role of Percutaneous Lung Biopsy in the Workup of a Solitary Pulmonary Nodule

MARGARET H. CHAFFEY, MD

From the Department of Radiology, University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine.

#### **MEDICAL PROGRESS**

## 182 Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis

LAWRENCE A. RINSKY, MD, and JAMES G. GAMBLE, MD, PhD

From the Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Service, Children's Hospital at Stanford, Palo Alto, California.

## MEDICAL STAFF CONFERENCE

#### 192 The Clinical Significance of Water Pollution

Discussant: JOSEPH LaDOU, MD

A discussion selected from the weekly staff conferences in the Department of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine. Taken from a transcription, it was prepared by Drs Homer A. Boushey, Professor of Medicine, and David G. Warnock, Associate Professor of Medicine, under the direction of Dr Lloyd H. Smith, Jr, Professor of Medicine and Associate Dean in the School of Medicine.

#### EPITOMES—IMPORTANT ADVANCES IN CLINICAL MEDICINE

## **Preventive Medicine and Public Health**

Items of progress in preventive medicine and public health. Each item in the judgment of a panel of knowledgeable physicians has recently become reasonably firmly established, both as to scientific fact and important clinical significance.

## 197 Cholesterol Reduction—Pros and Cons

ROYCE MOSER, Jr, MD, MPH

## 197 Penicillinase-Producing Neisseria gonorrhoeae

BERTHOLD UMLAND, MD

## 198 Preventing Transmission of Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection

WILLIAM F. OWEN, Jr, MD

(Continued from Page 135)

## 198 Preventing Influenza in Older Adults

DAVID M. BUCHNER, MD, MPH

## 199 Smoking Control—Policy and Legal Methods

MICHAEL J. MARTIN, MD, MPH, MBA

## 199 Preventing Dependency in the Elderly

PHILIP G. WEILER, MD

## 200 Chemical Contamination of Fish as an Emerging Environmental Health Concern

ANNA M. FAN, PhD, and RICHARD J. JACKSON, MD

#### 200 Ozone Air Pollution

MICHAEL LIPSETT, MD

### **EDITORIALS**

## 202 Death and Dying—A Public or Private Matter?

#### 202 The Treatment of Scoliosis

JOHN CARLISLE BROWN, MD

Dr Brown is Chief, Spinal Deformity Service, Rancho Los Amigos Hospital, Downey, California, and Associate Clinical Professor, Department of Orthopedics, University of Southern California School of Medicine, Los Angeles.

## 203 Cigarette Smoking Is Bad Practice

#### CASE REPORTS

## 204 Spontaneous Gas Gangrene at a Site of Remote Injury—Localization Due to Circulating Antitoxin

DENNIS L. STEVENS, MD, PhD; LINDA L. LAPOSKY; PAUL McDONALD; and IRWIN HARRIS, MD

From the Department of Medicine, University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, and the Infectious Disease Service and Department of Surgery, Veterans Administration Medical Center, Boise, Idaho.

## 205 Primary Hepatocellular Carcinoma Following Perinatal Transmission of Hepatitis B

MYRON J. TONG, PhD, MD, and SUGANTHA GOVINDARAJAN, MD

From the Liver Center, Huntington Memorial Hospital, Pasadena, and the Department of Medicine, University of Southern California School of Medicine, Los Angeles, and the Department of Pathology, Rancho Los Amigos Hospital, Downey, California.

## 208 Severe Hypermagnesemia Due to Multiple-Dose Cathartic Therapy

MARTIN J. SMILKSTEIN, MD; SUSAN C. SMOLINSKE, RPh; KENNETH W. KULIG, MD; and BARRY H. RUMACK, MD

From the Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center, Departments of Emergency Medicine and Pediatrics, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Denver, and Denver General Hospital.

## 211 Occult Mineral Oil Pneumonitis in Anorexia Nervosa

GARY T. FERGUSON, MD, and YORK E. MILLER, MD

From the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Department of Medicine, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, and the Veterans Administration Medical Center, Denver.

## 213 Coexistent Dermatomyositis and Autoimmune Thyroiditis

THOMAS E. GAMSKY, MD, and MICHAEL K. CHAN, MD

From the University of California, Davis, School of Medicine, and the Veterans Administration Medical Center, Martinez, California.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

## 215 Neuromuscular Blockade Due to Gentamicin Sulfate

ROBERT J. BROWNSBERGER, MD, and HOWARD F. MORRELLI, MD

## 215 Profession Under Stress

GREGORY E. POLITO, MD

## 215 Autopsy on an AIDS Patient

STEPHEN A. GELLER, MD

#### TOPICS IN PRIMARY CARE MEDICINE

## 217 Carpal Tunnel Syndrome

MICHAEL L. HODGKINS, MD, MPH, and DEBORAH GRADY, MD, MPH

From the Clinical Epidemiology Program and the Divisions of General Medicine, San Francisco General Hospital and Medical Center, and the Veterans Administration Medical Center, University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine.

## The Western Journal of Medicine

(Continued from Page 139)

#### **HEALTH CARE DELIVERY**

## 221 Training Primary Care Physicians in Flexible Sigmoidoscopy—Performance Evaluation of 17,167 Procedures

HOWARD D. GROVEMAN, MD; ROBERT A. SANOWSKI, MD; and MELVILLE R. KLAUBER, PhD

From the Department of Community and Family Medicine, University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine, La Jolla, and the Department of Gastroenterology, Veterans Administration Medical Center, Phoenix.

#### SPECIAL ARTICLE

## 225 Impact of Urban Disaster on a University Trauma Center

JONATHAN R. HIATT, MD, and BAXTER LARMON, MICP

From the Trauma and Emergency Surgery Service, Prehospital Care Service, University of California, Los Angeles, Medical Center, and the Department of Surgery, UCLA School of Medicine.

#### FROM A MEDICAL STUDENT

## 228 Thoughts on Physician-Assisted Suicide

ALEX RALPH DEMAC

From the University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine, La Jolla.

#### MEDICINE AND LAW

## 231 The Duty to Protect Others From Your Patients—Tarasoff Spreads to the Northwest

JOSEPH D. BLOOM, MD, and JEFFREY L. ROGERS, JD

From the Department of Psychiatry, Oregon Health Sciences University School of Medicine, Portland.

## **INFORMATION**

## 235 Preventing Occupational Low-Back Pain

RICHARD E. JOHNS, Jr, MD, MSPH

From the Occupational Medicine Program, Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, Department of Family and Preventive Medicine, University of Utah School of Medicine, Salt Lake City.

#### OTHER FEATURES

- 142 Information for Authors
- 148 Continuing Medical Education Activities in Arizona; California, Hawaii, and Nevada; Idaho; Montana; New Mexico; Utah; Washington; Wyoming
- 156 In Memoriam
- 160 Books Received
- 161 Subscription Information
- 236 Book Reviews
- 248 Classified Advertising
- 259 California Medical Association—Annual Session
- 266 Western State Medical Associations' Meetings
- ★ Official Journal of the Arizona Medical Association, the California Medical Association, the Idaho Medical Association, the Montana Medical Association, the Nevada State Medical Association, the New Mexico Medical Society, the Utah Medical Association, the Washington State Medical Association, and the Wyoming Medical Society. Affiliated Specialty Society: California Society of Internal Medicine.
- Affiliated Clinical Investigation Societies: the Western Association of Physicians; the Western Society for Clinical Investigation; the Western Section, American Federation for Clinical Research; the Western Society for Pediatric Research; the Western Region, Society for Investigative Dermatology.